



SN-US035209

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :

Shinpei OKAJIMA :

Serial No.: 10/765,997 :

Filed: January 29, 2004 :

For: BICYCLE RIM :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant(s) bring the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. A copy of the non-U.S. patent is attached. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Thus, *no fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement*. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

European Patent Publication No. EP 0 714 791 discloses a rim body (2) with several spaced coaxial holes (210) for the passage of spokes (82). The rim has guides (9) housed inside the casing that are held axially before mounting the spokes by lugs (93). An English abstract is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

European Patent Publication No. EP 0 715 001 discloses a process comprising bending an aluminum alloy profile produced by drawing or extrusion, followed by a chemical treatment stage which includes removing metal from the rim (2) by immersing it in a bath (52) of an aggressive chemical liquid (51). This is followed by rinsing in a second bath (54) containing a rinsing liquid (53) then neutralizing in a third bath (56) followed by a second

rinsing stage in another rinsing bath (58). An English abstract is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

European Patent Publication No. EP 1 167 078 discloses a spoke anchorage device consisting of a ferrule (12), with the outer wall screwed into a threaded location (7) in the rim (1) of the wheel. A nut (14) is screwed onto the threaded end (11) of the spoke (10). An English abstract is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 6-39502 appears to disclose a portion of an annular rim (10) having a plurality of transverse spoke attachment openings (17/18) formed in the radially inner part thereof with bent ends of spokes (20) mounted therein. The radially inner part of the rim (10) appears to have cutouts as seen in Figure 3.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 7-501022 discloses a rim (1) with a plurality of nipple holes (2), each nipple hole (2) engaged by a nipple (3). The nipples (3) have an inner thread (4) and a spot for applying a torque that allows the nipple to be turned in order to adjust the individual prestress of each spoke (6). In order to allow the spokes (6) to be exchanged without dismounting the tire, the nipple (3) is supported on the rim (1) by a further thread coupling (8/9). An English abstract of International Patent No. WO 93/09963, which is an equivalent of this Japanese patent publication, is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

Taiwanese Patent Publication No. 313981 appears to disclose part of an annular rim (1) with spokes (3) coupled to members (4). An additional member (2) appears to be mounted in a trough of the rim (1) between the heads of the members (4) and the rim (1).

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick A. Hilsmier
Reg. No. 46,034

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP
1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202)-293-0444
Dated: 02-27-2004

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Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/765,997
Filing Date	January 29, 2004
First Named Inventor	Shinpei OKAJIMA
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	SN-US035209

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code (if known)		
		183647		Danford	10-1876
		395523		Taylor	01-1889
		399453		Warwick	03-1889
		446189		Overman	02-1891
		452649		Powell	05-1891
		521385		Mosley	06-1894
		804617		Newton	11-1905
		1286065		Murray	11-1918
		1316605		Wagenhorst	09-1919
		1367092		Porter	02-1921
		1451911		Johnson	04-1923
		1469769		Booth	10-1923
		1484844		Olle	02-1924
		1584576		Wagenhorst	05-1926
		1649678		Freivogel	11-1927
		1676303		Wagenhorst	07-1928
		2937905		Altenburger	05-1960
		4583787		Michelotti	04-1986
		4793659		Oleff et al.	12-1988
		5110190	A	Johnson	05-1992

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	Translation (Yes or No or N/A)
		Office	Number	Kind Code (if known)			
		EP	0130449	A2	Michelotti	01-1985	N/A
		EP	0714791	A1	Mercat et al.	06-1996	No
		EP	0715001	A1	Mercat	06-1996	No
		EP	1167078	A1	Mercat	01-2002	No
		JP	639502	U	Yamagiwa et al.	05-1994	No
		JP	7501022	A	Kleinhoff	02-1995	No
		TW	313981		Huang	08-1997	No

Examiner
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Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Sheet 2 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code (if known)		
		5499864	A	Klein et al.	03-1996
		5651591	A	Mercat et al.	07-1997
		5806935	A	Shermeister	09-1998
		5829299	A	Wessels	11-1998
		6155651	A	Mizata et al.	12-2000
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		6216344	B1	Mercat et al.	04-2001
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		2002/0014293	A1	Passarotto	02-2002

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